(c) whether it is also a fact that CBI inquiry is being conducted into the above irregularities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Development of Ajanta-Ellora caves

2406. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan Bank of International Corporation (JBIC) has agreed to extend Rs. 350 crore loan for the second phase of Ajanta-Ellora conservation and tourism development project ;

(b) if so, the details of the project which will be taken in phase-II;

(c) by when, these works would start; and

(d) the details of projects which have since been completed for the development of Ajanta-Ellora caves under phase-I with the help of JBIC?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) to (c) The matter is under discussion with the authorities.

(d) The details of projects which have been completed under phase-I with the help of JBIC are as follows :—

(i) Monument conservation and improvement of approach path to caves.
(ii) Extension of airport runway and upgradation.
(iii) Afforestation of 736 hectares of forest land near the caves.
(iv) Upgradation of 162 kms of road in Ajanta-Ellora region.
(v) Raising height of Tondapore irrigation dam and installation of water supply system at caves.
(vi) Augmentation of water supply at caves and provision of related supply network.
(vii) Visitor Management System.

Incentives to tourists

2407. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in News Time dated the 3rd October, 2001 captioned "Hotel Industry goes for the hard sell"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and the steps taken/